



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Oregon Transportation Commission

355 Capitol St. NE, Room 135
Salem, OR 97301

August 16, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: TIGER II Grant application for Southeast Corridor Project: Connecting Communities

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The Oregon Transportation Commission is pleased to offer its support for application by TriMet and other local agencies for TIGER II grant funding for the Southeast Corridor Project: Connecting Communities. This project would construct a number of improvements, including multi-use paths, roadway improvements, and transit station enhancements, that will build on the investment in the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail project. The improvements for which TriMet is seeking TIGER funding would bring existing infrastructure into a better state of repair, help catalyze neighborhood transformation in large swaths of the community, and provide additional opportunities for active transportation while enhancing access to high-capacity transit.

As the State of Oregon's top transportation policy body, the Commission reviewed TIGER II grant proposals for their benefits to the state's transportation system and impacts on the state's economy and the livability of our communities. After reviewing this proposal, we agree that the project would benefit Oregon's transportation system.

Thank you for considering this grant application.

Sincerely,

Gail Achterman
Chair, Oregon Transportation Commission